

## Ken Thompson And Umar Williams Speak Out

by Kabrina Murrell

1. O.K., I know you, Umar and Kenny, but what is the name of your band?  
*Umar*—The name of the band is SEDITION.  
*Ken*—There's me, Ken Thompson, Umar Williams, John Blackford, and Pat Malone. Soon there'll be a fifth member.
2. How long have you been playing together, and how long have you known each other?  
*Ken*—I've known Umar for four years; I've known Pat and John for six months.  
*Umar*—I've known Ken for four years, and Pat and John for three years. We played in a band situation before our new group. John and Pat played at Xavarian H.S., and I've played gospel concerts.  
*Ken*—I was in a band called Dead Sister.
3. Who plays what in your band?  
*Ken*—I'm vocals, main lyricist. Pat Malone is on the bass and is a songwriter, John Blackford is on the guitar and is a songwriter, and Umar Williams is on the drums and percussion.
4. Have you had any gigs yet?  
*Umar*—We have some gigs coming up. We're playing at Fort Hamilton H.S. Feb. 12, C.B.G.B.'s in March or April, a confirmation party in June, and countless gigs with various clubs in the spring and summer time.
5. Is this a long term career move? (This is so exciting: I get to see the birth of a new band!)  
*Umar*—Yes, this is like a 50 year marriage—a commitment. (That's deep!)  
*Ken*—Yes, but I hope to get into film or broadcasting.  
*Umar*—Pat and John feel the same way I do. (All plan to attend college.)
6. Where do you plan to be 5-10 years from now?  
*Umar*—I plan to be on my second or third album,

touring with Motley Crue, and working within the music business, own a record company, production, etc. I also plan to be happily married to my current girlfriend.

*Ken*—I plan to make a major impact on the music world, both physically and mentally. (Tell me about deep!)

7. Who are your major influences?

*Umar*—Tommy Lee (Motley Crue), Rick Allen (Def Leppard), Bill Ward and Vinnie Appice (Black Sabbath), Scott Rockenfield (Queens Ryche) Ozzy Osbourne, any punk bands, The Ramones.

*Ken*—Prince, Freddie Mercury (Queens), Axl Rose (Guns 'n' Roses), Les Claypool (Primus), Mozart.

*John*—Ozzy, Van Halen, Led Zepplin, Jimmy Hendrix.

*Pat*—G 'n' R, Dangerous Toys, Punk Bands, Alice in Chains.

8. What advice would you give to other musicians?

*Ken*—Hold on to what you've got. If you like the music, keep with it. Don't let anyone else influence you into a type of music you don't like.

*Umar*—Do what you want—do not let anyone else turn you another way. If you want to play rock or raggae, play it. Just do it to the best of your ability.

*Both*—It's not important to please others, but to please yourself. BE ORIGINAL!

*Umar*—To all would-be fans (that is, if you like our music), we love you and hope to see you at all our concerts. Always remember, if it wasn't for you, we wouldn't be alive.

Thanks, guys, it's been fun! For more information, contact Kenny or Umar in h.r. 408.

## Freshman Class President Kechea Brown Interviewed

by Shani Smallwood

Being class president must be a tough job. Freshman class President Kechea Brown gives us the inside scoop on how she feels about it.

*Shani*: Do you like being class president?

*Kechea*: Yeah, it's all right.

*Shani*: How does it feel to be class president? Do you feel a lot of pressure?

*Kechea*: Yes, I do feel like I'm under pressure sometimes.

*Shani*: Do you feel that the freshman class works well with you?

*Kechea*: Sometimes. I get a lot of requests for things I can't provide.

*Shani*: Like uniform change and things like that, right?

*Kechea*: Exactly.

*Shani*: Do you plan to run for class president next year?

*Kechea*: I don't know. I like the Student Council, but I don't really like the pressure.

*Shani*: Is there anything you would like to say to the freshman class?

*Kechea*: Yes. Thank you for your support. I appreciate it.

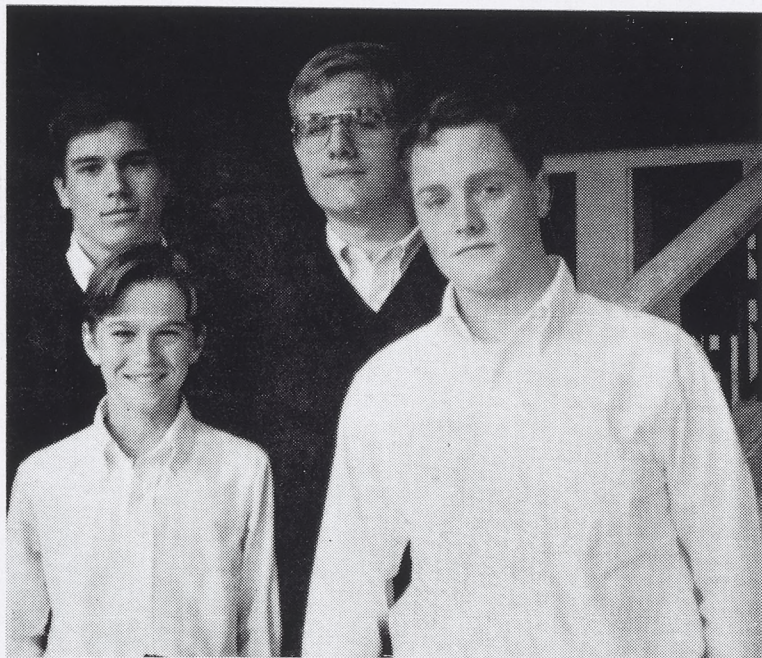
# HIGH POINT

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BISHOP FORD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Spring, 1993

## Bishop Ford C.C.H.S. Participates In Ronald S. Lauder Student Exchange Program For Sixth Consecutive Year



Current participants in exchange program, top row: Akos Sebestyen (Budapest) and Andy Glaser (Vienna); bottom row: Ryan Warnock (Ford sophomore) and John McKenna (Ford junior).

by Ray Layden

For the sixth consecutive year, Bishop Ford C.C.H.S. has been invited to participate in the Ronald S. Lauder Student Exchange Program. The program is offered to those students in sophomore and junior year who are very serious and able to keep up with their studies. Students who apply for this program are selected on three bases including: an application, an interview, and a home visit.

This year's program has involved thirty American students, and thirty students from Vienna, Budapest, Prague and Warsaw. The foreign students come to the United States, live with a student from the U.S., and go to school with that student from September to December. Then from January to June the American student will go to the country of the exchange student to live and go to school.

There are many trips planned for the students taking part in this program. While in the U.S. all participants will visit the United Nations Building, Williamsburg, Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Museum of Art, perhaps a play or go to a baseball game, picnics, and other activities, so that the foreign students can get to

see what American culture is like, rather than to see it on a television screen or in pictures. It also enables the students to get to know one another better. While in the foreign country, the American students will go on many scheduled trips.

The program may appear to be very expensive, because of the air fare; however, the only cost to participants is two hundred fifty dollars for insurance, visa fees, and spending money. Everything else including air fare is paid for by the "Ronald S. Lauder Foundation."

Lauder, the former ambassador to Austria, recognizes the importance of international understanding; that is why he began and funds the exchange program. Mrs. Raffiniello, the coordinator of the program here at Ford for the past six years, states, "Students get more out of this program than they would ever get from a classroom."

One student who would definitely agree is junior John McKenna, who is currently taking part in the program. He is traveling across a great deal of Europe, including Hungary, Austria, and Germany, just to name a few places. Although he is having a great deal of fun, there is still a lot of school work he is doing.

## SCENT OF A WOMAN And A FEW GOOD MEN Reviewed

by Sharujah Ahmed

This enlightening film stars Al Pacino and co-star Chris O'Connell. Pacino plays a blind, fighting colonel. Chris O'Connell is the charming young preppie school boy who poses as the colonel's "guide dog" while visiting New York. Pacino is a one-man show who keeps you laughing throughout the film. This is a must-see movie.

### A Few Good Men

Tom Cruise and Demi Moore star as the Navy defense team for two marines who are accused of murder. The Navy defense team suspect it's a middle-aged C.O., Jack Nicholson. The truth is finally exposed in the courtroom finale. This is also a must-see film, directed by Rob Reiner.

Z100 is coming  
to the  
Bishop Ford Super Dance  
March 19-20  
HELP FIGHT  
MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY



Happy Easter!



## Koichi Ai, Assist. To Japanese Ambassador

by Efrain Marrero

- Q. How do you feel about the competition in electronics between Japan and the United States?
- A. The Japanese economy is identical to that of the United States. Japan has a free market, and we believe that the competition between corporations is the basis for healthy competition and progress. Also, competition is what has made the economy of the United States and other capitalist governments great.
- Q. In recent days, Japan's neighboring country, Korea, has adopted a new civil president. How do you feel about their choice of president and government?
- A. They elected a president with a civil background, and we are happy with open elections.
- Q. Have you or the Ambassador spoken with President-elect Bill Clinton, and how do you feel about his new ideas?
- A. No, neither I nor the ambassador has spoken with Bill Clinton, but the Prime Minister has talked with Clinton, and he has expressed his ideas, and we are willing to cooperate and have expressed this in various ways.
- Q. Current President Bush has issued a proposal to drop tariffs on imported goods from some countries. Does this include Japan, and what is your opinion of the proposal?
- A. This proposal in particular is related to the signing of the Nasda treaty by the United States, Canada, and Mexico, but we are very interested in what is occurring.
- Q. Do you support the United States' decision to send troops to Somalia, and do you think the Japanese will take part in the rescue mission?
- A. Yes, we support the United States' actions. Yes, efforts are being made by Japan, which include a \$100 million trust fund, and we are currently contemplating whether to send troops or medical help.
- Q. Sir, would you like to say something to the young students of my school.
- A. Yes. Relations between the United States and Japan are better, and that is important, because combined they form 40% of essential products for both countries' welfare, and for the rest of the world. So many things are difficult in economics that these countries look after each other and can do a lot together to better both nations.

I would greatly like to thank Mr. Korch Ai for his courteous attention and time. I was well attended by all those whom I spoke to at the Japanese consulate and embassy.

## Vasquez And Irving Interviewed

by Clifton Regis

Track and basketball are the most popular sports at Ford today, due to their great achievements through the years. But track is the easiest to get into. It is also the most demanding sport. Many kids try out for other sports but don't make it. But track will take anyone who is dedicated to the sport. Many of the kids stick to track because no matter how bad or good you are, there is always a position for you.

Ford hired a man named Mr. Irving just last year. He is a black track coach assistant. Even though he is new, he has easily adjusted to the track and field department. His experience in the Empire State Games gives him the knowledge needed to work with kids. We can assume that we will see him next year.

The man I am about to introduce doesn't really need an introduction. Because his name has been in our and other newspapers time and again. He has led the Ford track team to many great meets, like Penn State and State Championship; he has become a household word (that's going a little too far): Mr. Vasquez. And what does he have to say to Ford students? "Just keep working hard and study hard, it will pay off. And stay out of trouble."

I asked Mr. Vasquez and Mr. Irving a few questions about track:

- 1) In Jan. many boys came to track for indoor season, but since outdoor is here, do you believe they will be able to keep up?
- 2) Now that indoor is over, do you think we could end with a big finish?
- 3) Mr. Vasquez and Mr. Irving would like to thank these people.
- 4) This is where you can find Mr. Irving and Coach Vasquez in the summer.

### IRVING

1) "They should be—after a couple of wins—they should be able to hold on."

2) "I think that we have enough talent and we should be able to go and win in the big meets."

3) "I'd like to thank Coach Nash and Coach Vasquez. I am enjoying working here. The freshman all the way to the varsity boys are all dedicated kids. I like working with them."

4) He will be working in the Empire State Games.

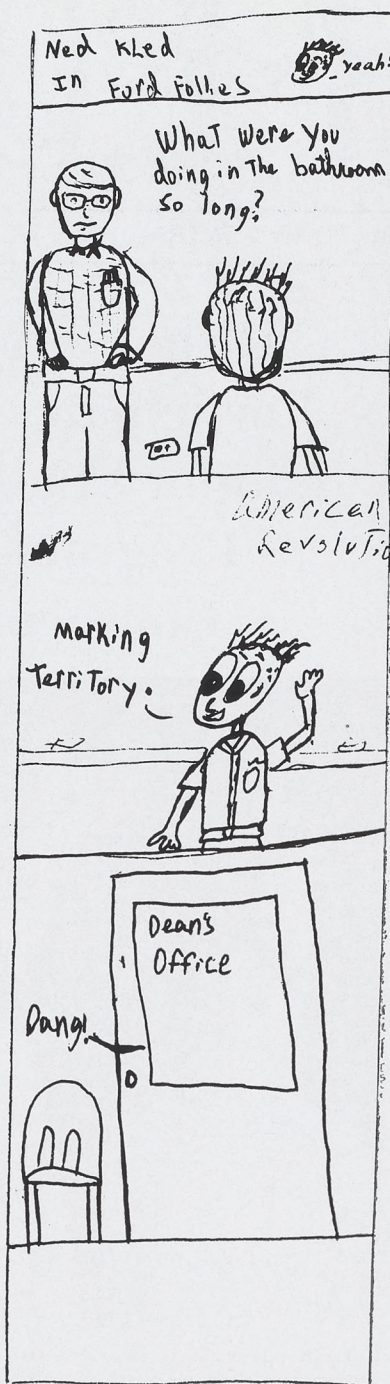
### VASQUEZ

"If they work hard, they could; it's hard to make up what you've missed. It's a gift to the person who's been working out every day."

"We could make a big improvement, 'cause the kids have been working hard throughout the indoor season."

"Mr. Nash . . . he puts a lot of effort into the track team."

He will be at the Big Apple Games; anybody is welcome to come. They have many activities, from weightlifting to basketball.



## Medicine

by Vincent Lijoi

This music review is on the group MEDICINE. They have a new album out called *Shot Forth Self Living*. "Medicine" uses guitar feedback and humming vocals to create melodies that are very catchy. Talent is in this group's bloodline. The quintet includes bassist Ed Ruscha, son of the famed painter of the same name. Like his dad, Ruscha toys with lines that surge with humor and passion. The album is in stores everywhere and is on the Def American record label.

This movie review is on the film *Lorenzo Oil*. It takes place in 1984 when Augusto and Michaela Odone see their 5-year-old son, Lorenzo, fall victim to adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD), a rare and devastating disease with no cure. Driven and possessed by a desire to save Lorenzo's life, the Odones succeeded in inventing a treatment for ALD. It is a one-of-a-kind George Miller medical thriller, starring Nick Nolte and Susan Sarandon. It is the story of how they did it.

It is also the story of why they did it. The movie shows two desperate people who accomplish the impossible by convincing themselves they have no other choice. The movie is rated PG-13 and is playing everywhere.

## F.E.S. Takes Field Trip To Wildlife Conservation Park



F.E.S. seniors Precious Abu, Wioletta Pienkowska, Marta Koziorzebska (partially hidden), Cher Saccomagno, Christine Macaluso, Lynda Wayner, Aisha Awad and Ben Zomer enjoy an outing to survey species and habitats at the "former" Bronx Zoo.

## Boys' And Girls' Swim Teams

by Jannina Zomer

This year both the boys' and the girls' swim teams won their divisions. They were declared "the undefeated" champions on Saturday morning, January 30, when the boys beat Iona Prep and the girls beat OLPH.

Both teams worked hard all

season long at practice and at meets, tried really hard for first place and their best times. Most of the members on both teams were very dedicated, coming to every practice and showing up at every meet with a lot of team spirit in their hearts.

Congratulations to all the members on the teams.

## Gays In Military?

by Xavier Cardriche

One of the biggest moot questions that we are now facing in our society today is: Should gays be allowed in the military? There are positive and very negative views on this question. I am undecided whether or not gays should be allowed in the military.

Who should decide? Should gays be allowed in the military? Is this situation affecting our society? What do teenagers think? What do you think?

X.C. Should gays be allowed in the military?

Teenager #1 "Yes, because they're human beings also, and they shouldn't be discriminated against by being separated."

Teenager #2 "It's okay with me, as long as they don't do stuff, and as long as they keep their feelings inside."

Teenager #3 "Yes, as long as they don't perform sexual misconduct."

Teenager #4 "I don't care, it doesn't matter to me."

Throughout the years, gays have been insulted, stereotyped, discriminated against, rejected, and abused by the media and a percentage of society.

The media has influenced society widely to make them judge gays (homosexuals) as weak, feminine, very friendly, and inferior to heterosexuals. There is a particular raggaie song (entitled "Boom Bye Bye") which sends a message that's: Gays should be murdered.

Many people who debate against gays often use the bible as a source to backup their arguments saying things like—"God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve," and God created men for women and women for men."

Homosexuality is *not* something that a person can detect merely by looking at an individual's appearance, but it is a sexual inclination of a person that seems to be acquired through genes.

### HIGHPOINT

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